

APPENDIX

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 6 and 19, without prejudice, as follows, and, in the event claims 11-18 are rejoined, also amend claims 11-13 and 15 as indicated.

1 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody (mAb) specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV)-encoded glycoprotein, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1.

2 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 wherein the inactivated FIV is FIV-Shizuoka (FIV-Shiz) or FIV-Petaluma.

3 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said glycoprotein (gp) is gp95 or gp130.

4 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 produced from a hybridoma cell line suitable for obtaining of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein prepared by immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response, and fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line, and screening hybridomas for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV.

5 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 4 wherein the cell line is suitable for obtaining a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein selected from gp 95 and gp 130

6 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 4 produced from the cell line deposited ats the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) number under Accesion No. PTA-4837.

7 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 which is mAb 1D9.

8 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 3 wherein said glycoprotein is gp95.

9 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 2 wherein said FIV is FIV-Shiz.

10 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 or claim 4 wherein said FIV has been inactivated by treatment with formalin.

11 (Withdrawn But Currently amended): A method for the detection of an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

12 (Withdrawn But Currently amended): A method for determining the quantity of an inactivated FIV in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

13 (Withdrawn But Currently amended): A method for determining the potency of an inactivated FIV in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

14 (Withdrawn): The method according to any of claims 11, 12 or 13 wherein the monoclonal antibody is a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein.

15 (Withdrawn But Currently amended): A method for the preparation of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein which comprises immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response, fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line to generate hybridoma cells, screening said hybridoma cells for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV, and then selecting a stable clone, growing said stable clone and harvesting the desired monoclonal antibodies, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1.

16 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15 wherein the inactivated FIV is FIV-Shiz or FIV-Petaluma.

17 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15 wherein said inactivated FIV is FIV-Shiz.

18 (Withdrawn): The method according to any of claims 15 wherein said FIV has been inactivated by treatment with formalin.

19 (Currently amended): A hybridoma cell line suitable for obtaining of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, having the Western immunoblot analysis shown in Figure 1, prepared by immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response, and fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line, and screening hybridomas for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV.

20 (Previously presented): The cell line of claim 19 which is suitable for obtaining a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope unique to an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein selected from gp 95 and gp 130.

21 (Previously presented): The cell line of claim 19 for obtaining a monoclonal antibody which is mAb 1D9.

22 (Previously presented): The cell line deposited at the American Type Culture Collection under Accession No. PTA-4837.